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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

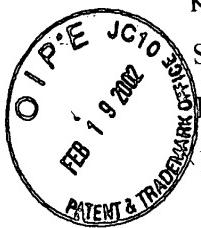
In re patent application of

Kurosaka 09/825,889

Serial No. 09/481,934

Filed January 13, 2000

For FLOPPY DISK CARTRIDGE



Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Examiner Evans, Jefferson

Art Unit 2652

RECEIVED

FEB 21 2002

Technology Center 2600

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir:

Under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.97 through 1.98 and pursuant to applicant's duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. 1.56, applicant respectfully brings the following documents, cited in an Office Action for the corresponding European Patent Application and listed in the attached form PTO-1449, to the attention of the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application. Copies of the listed documents are provided herewith for the convenience of the Examiner.

This citation does not constitute an admission that the references are relevant or material to the claims. They are only cited as constituting related art of which the applicant is aware.

I hereby certify that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this statement.

In compliance with the requirements of 37 C.F.R. 1.98(a)(3), as a concise statement of relevance, as it is presently understood by the individual designated in 35 U.S.C. 1.56(c) most knowledgeable about the content of the information, the undersigned attorney of record submits the text of the official action by a foreign

examiner in which the reference was cited. The relevance to the pending U.S. Patent Application is that the reference was cited in a foreign patent application on the same subject matter. However, no independent analysis of the reference, the accuracy of the statement of the foreign examiner or the claims of the foreign application under the laws of that country or the United States relative to the subject matter claimed in the present application has been made; the present understanding of the contents thereof by the undersigned being based on the foreign examiner's comments submitted herewith.

It is respectfully requested that the listed references be considered by the Examiner and be formally made of record in the application. Should any fees be required for entry and consideration of this information disclosure statement, the Commissioner is authorized to charge attorney's deposit account 50-2041 (Whitham, Curtis & Christofferson).

Respectfully submitted,



Michael E. Whitham
Reg. No. 32,635

